

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. For use with call transfer circuitry associated with a central office, a system for automatically transferring a telephone call from a called party to a subsequent party, comprising:

a call termination detector that detects termination of said telephone call by said called party; and

signaling circuitry, associated with said call termination detector and dissociated from said called party, that, in response to said termination, signals said call transfer circuitry to transfer said telephone call to said subsequent party without requiring equipment associated with said called party to cause said transfer.

2. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said system is collocated with said call transfer circuitry.

3. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said signaling circuitry signals said call transfer circuitry in-band.

4. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said called party and said equipment are unable to detect said transfer.

5. The system as recited in Claim 1 further comprising  
sampling circuitry, associated with said call termination detector,  
that selects said telephone call for said transfer in response to  
said termination.

6. The system as recited in Claim 1 further comprising  
messaging circuitry, associated with said call termination  
detector, that transmits a message regarding said transfer to a  
calling party of said telephone call before said calling party is  
connected to said called party.

7. The system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said subsequent  
party comprises a surveyor that surveys a calling party of said  
call regarding interaction between said calling party and said  
called party.

8. For use with call transfer circuitry associated with a central office, a method of automatically transferring a telephone call from a called party to a subsequent party, comprising:

detecting termination of said telephone call by said called party; and

in response to said termination, signaling said call transfer circuitry to transfer said telephone call to said subsequent party without requiring equipment associated with said called party to cause said transfer.

9. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said system is collocated with said call transfer circuitry.

10. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said signaling circuitry signals said call transfer circuitry in-band.

11. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said called party and said equipment are unable to detect said transfer.

12. The method as recited in Claim 8 further comprising sampling circuitry, associated with said call termination detector, that selects said telephone call for said transfer in response to said termination.



15. For use with call transfer circuitry associated with a central office, a surveying system, comprising:

sampling circuitry that selects a telephone call to be surveyed from a plurality of telephone calls destined for a called party;

messaging circuitry, associated with said sampling circuitry, that transmits a message to a calling party of said telephone call before said calling party is connected to said called party;

a call termination detector, associated with said messaging circuitry, that detects termination of said telephone call by said called party;

signaling circuitry, associated with said call termination detector and dissociated from said called party, that, in response to said termination, signals said call transfer circuitry to transfer said telephone call to a subsequent party without requiring equipment associated with said called party to cause said transfer; and

a surveyer, associated with said subsequent party, that surveys said calling party regarding interaction between said calling party and said called party.

16. The system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said system is collocated with said call transfer circuitry.

